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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

Case No. 13-00415 EAG

IN RE:

JOSE RAMON VEGA ARROYO

Debtor CHAPTER 13

MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

COMES NOW counsel for the appellant, Nydia Gonzalez Ortiz, and moves to withdraw as counsel pursuant to BAP Local Rule 9010-1, and local Bankruptcy Rules for Puerto Rico, for the following reasons:

- 1. On August 13, 2020, the Court issued an opinion and order which affects the debtor's rights. See Bank docket no. 212
- 2. That as the debtor is a very elderly person in his late (80) eighties, with medical conditions that prevent him from meeting personally with counsel because of Covid-19 pandemic, the decision was informed to him in a lengthy telephone conversation.
- 3. The debtor requested that the case be appealed, even though we informed the debtor that we were still researching on the potential issues on appeal.
- 4. On September 10, 2020, in order to preserve the debtor's right to appeal, a formal Notice of Appeal was filed before this Honorable Court.
- 5. That since the filing of notice of appearance, the undersigned attorney has tried to contact the debtor on several occasions for further proceedings related to the case, to no avail.
- 6. That currently there is no effective communication with the debtor or any person related to him that can give us access to discuss the matters pertaining to the case. This being a vital matter where there are bar dates to comply with.

- 7. It has come to our attention that Mr. Jose Ramon Vega Arroyo has been seeking to speak to and hire other attorneys regarding this case, in as much as three attorneys have contacted us to inquire about the case and its proceedings.
- 8. At this time the undersigned attorney and Mr. Vega Arroyo have conflicting opinions on how to proceed with the case, and the lack of communication between the client and attorney are further complicating these irreconcilable differences.
- 9. That BAP Local Rule 9010-1, Entry of Appearance and Admission to Practice provides as follows: "(2) obtaining an order of the Panel allowing the attorney to withdraw. The Panel may grant such an order if an attorney files and serves on opposing counsel and the attorney's client a motion to withdraw as counsel. Any motion to withdraw shall include the client's current address and telephone number."
- 10. Counsel believes, after a conscientious examination of the present situation that it is in the best interest of the parties to requests permission to withdraw from further representation of the debtor-appellant.
- 11. That in protection of the rights of Mr. Vega Arroyo it is also requested that all proceedings pending before this court be held in abeyance for thirty (30) day until debtor- appellant retains new counsel.
- 12. The undersigned counsel has served a copy of this motion on appellant. By letter sent with the copy of the motion, counsel has also informed appellant in writing of his right to respond to the motion within fourteen (14) days. Sent by certified mail to the following address P.O. Box 1654, Lajas, Puerto Rico 00667, last known address in master address list.

WHEREFORE, the undersigns prays that the court take notice of the stated in this motion which is good cause to request withdrawal of representation and that the debtor be allowed 30 days to inform new counsel.

14 DAYS NOTICE: The Debtor, trustee, creditors and parties in interest are hereby notified that within (14) days after service as evidenced by the certification, and an additional three (3) days pursuant to Red. R. Bank. P. 9006 (f) if you were served by mail, any party against whom this paper has been served, or any other party to the action who objects to the relief sought herein, shall serve and file an objection or other appropriate response to this paper with the Clerk's office of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico. If no objection or other response is filed within the time allowed herein, the paper will be deemed unopposed and may be granted unless: (I) the requested relief is forbidden by law; (ii) the requested relief is against public policy; or (iii) in the opinion of the Court, the interest of justice requires otherwise. If no response is filed within the prescribed period of time the Court may enter an order granting the relief here requested.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE: I hereby certify that on September 16th, 2020, I electronically filed the present motion, with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System which will send notification of such filing to all CM/ECF participants. Also, I hereby certify that I have mailed by United States Postal Service the present motion to the following non CM/ECF participants as per the attached mailing list.

In Yauco, Puerto Rico, this 16th day of September 2020.

/s/<u>Nydia González Ortiz</u> NYDIA GONZALEZ ORTIZ, ESQ USDC-PR 124006 Attorney for debtor SANTIAGO & GONZALEZ

11 Betances Street

Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698

Tels: (787) 267-2205/ 2252

Email:bufetesg@gmail.com

13-00415-EAG13 JOSE RAMON VEGA ARROYO

Creditors

ALFREDO CANCEL IRIZARRY PO BOX 427 LAJAS PR 00667(3637500)

(cr)

AUTORIDAD DE ENERGIA ELECTRICA

DE PR

PO BOX 363508

SAN JUAN PR 00936(3637501)

(cr)

BANCO POPULAR

PO BOX 362708

SAN JUAN PR 00936 3228(3637502)

(cr)

BANCO POPULAR DE PUERTO RICO

BANKRUPTCY DEPARTMENT

PO BOX 366818

SAN JUAN PR 00936-6818(3661891)

(cr)

BUFETE SANTIAGO & GONZALEZ 11 CALLE BETANCES YAUCO PR 00698(3637499)

(cr)

DEPARTAMENTO DE HACIENDA $\mbox{NEGOCIADO DE CONTRIBUCIONES DE COBRO} \\ \mbox{PO BOX 2520}$

TRUJILLO ALTO PR 00977 2520(3637503)

(cr)

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE PHILADELPHIA PA 19154 0030(3637504)

(cr)

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
BANKRUPTCY SECTION SUITE 1504
235 AVE ARTERIAL HOSTOS
SAN JUAN PR 00918(3637505)

(cr)

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICES

PO BOX 16236

PHILADELPHIA PA 19114 0236(3637506)

(cr)

IRS

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE KANSAS CITY MO 64999 0202(3637507)

(cr)

IRS MERCANTIL BUILDING
2 PONCE DE LEON AVENUE SUITE 1014
SAN JUAN PR 00918(3637508)

(cr)

MONEY HOUSE PR COM 52 CALLE PASEO COVADONGA PUERTA DE TIERRA SAN JUAN PR 00901(3637509)

(cr)

POPULAR AUTO
BANKRUPTCY DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 366818
SAN JUAN PUERTO RICO 00936-6818(3661895)

(cr)